

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 101

By McDonald

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Sumner County
Emergency Medical Services on receiving the
Bob Thomas ALS Service Award.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly pause to salute the men and women of emergency medical services who, in the course of discharging their vital public duties, provide care that dramatically improves outcomes for their critically ill and injured patients; and

WHEREAS, Sumner County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) employs a staff of the highest quality, and for their skill and dedication, Sumner County EMS recently received the Bob Thomas ALS Service Award, an award that recognizes achievement in numerous categories by a single ambulance service; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Ambulance Service Association honors exemplary EMS in the categories of training, patient care, grants, community involvement, special teams, and information technology, and the Sumner County EMS excelled in each division, a testament to the exemplary life-saving accomplishments befitting recipients of this esteemed award; and

WHEREAS, the dedicated professionals of Sumner County EMS include Hope Baker, Marie Blevins, Michael Anderson, Vincent Riley, Doris Hawkins-Tweed, Mike Cook, Jay Austin, and Keith Douglas, all of whom were presented with the award at an annual conference held in Gatlinburg; and

WHEREAS, strongly credentialed, Sumner County EMS's accomplishments include the planning of the "Miles for Memories" program, which will systematize the eventual transportation of patients under hospice care to events such as graduations, and has also organized a swift water rescue team, a bike team, and a SWAT team; and

WHEREAS, going above and beyond the call of duty, this highly skilled team has provided more than eighty classes in several themes over the past year, including weekly CPR

training classes, which have an impressive outreach spanning from industrial facilities, nursing homes, community centers, churches, volunteer fire departments, and even to the US Navy; and

WHEREAS, the EMS has equipped all trucks in service with state-approved infant carrier systems and AutoPulse CPR devices, and Sumner County is the first to implement hypothermic post cardiac arrest protocol in conjunction with both surrounding county hospitals; additionally, after receiving approval by the state, Sumner EMS has introduced the S.A.L.T. airway to facilitate with the implementation of breathing equipment; and

WHEREAS, this technologically advanced unit was the first EMS to provide chill core cases for use in cardiac arrest situations, and as a testament to the successes of the Sumner County EMS, these efforts have greatly improved the recovery odds in patients; and

WHEREAS, committed to the highest level of response and care, the EMS's string of accomplishments include receiving a grant to enable Sumner County responders to transmit information more readily to hospitals by using the S.T.E.M.I. protocol; allocating a rapid response at cath labs within the hospital, the esteemed EMS is meeting and surpassing a ninety minute goal in emergency care; and

WHEREAS, the EMS possesses advanced equipment and procedures that have helped dramatically improve these heroes abilities to return spontaneous circulation (ROSC) in patients; Sumner EMS is also fully sponsoring the IT and communication needs of the Sumner County SKYWARN program, which will better assist the community of Sumner County with weather software, essential hardware, and improved communication equipment; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to progress, the SCEMS IT Department is testing a custom software product that plans to integrate 'Live' spotter reports into Doppler viewing software, allowing field personnel to report weather and disaster information related to the Sumner County community by laptop, mobile phone, or radio transmission, and all relevant individuals will be able to obtain the information automatically plotted on the up-to-date mapping software; and

WHEREAS, members of emergency medical services teams, like those employed by Sumner County EMS, engage in countless hours of specialized training and continuing education designed to enhance their lifesaving skills, and the care they provide dramatically improves survival and recovery rates for those who experience sudden illness or injury; and

WHEREAS, these men and women are truly dedicated to the health and well-being of their fellow Tennesseans, and for their prodigious efforts on behalf of the people of this State, they should be duly recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Sumner County EMS for receiving the Bob Thomas ALS Service Award, and wish all the employees of this respected team the very best in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.